WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Salt industry under priority sector

*144. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to include s."lt industry under the priority sector;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the total production of common salt in the country per annum;

(d) whether it is a fact that iodisa-tion of salt has been successful and large scale units have entered into salt production; and

(e) if so, what is the policy of Gov-ernment in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Industry has been addressing itself to the task of promoting the interests of salt industry. Consequently, there has been a tremendous step-up in the production of iodised salt. In order to enable it to avail itself of concessional credit from public sector banks, it has been decided to include salt mdustrv in priority sector Manufacture of salt is largely i_n the amal] scale $_s$ector.

(c) The total production $_0$f common salt in the country during the year 1087 i_s estimated at 99 lakh tonnes.

(d) and (e) The Salt Iodisation Pro-gramme has been successful. While the policy of the Government is to encourage setting up of small scale units for iodisation of salt, a few large scale units have also taken up manufacture of iodised salt. It may further be added that more than 90 per cent of iodised sat $i_{.s}$ manufactured i_n the small scale sector.

Recommendations of ihe Chari Committee

145. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1412 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision on various recommendations made by the Chari Committee; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRl VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of Transmission Corporation

•147. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be please^ to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a Transmission Corporation to work out an integrated approach to the power transmission needs of different regions in the country:

(b) if so. the nature of the proposed set up of the Corporation; and

(c) whether the ^regional powsr grids are also proposed to be integrated under the abave scheme to ensure equitable distribution of power in all

the regions?